Government for increasing reimbursement of road freight expenses for transportation of palmolein allotted by the Central Government;

(b) if so, whether Government are considering the claim of the State for increase in reimbursement of road freight; and

(c) by when a decision would be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Government of India considered the representation of Gujarat Government. However, the representation could not be acceded to, and the Government of Gujarat has been informed on 8.12.2000.

Requirement of foodgrains for BPL and APL people of Bihar

†478. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of foodgrains required for the people living below and above the poverty line in Bihar during the last three years under PDS;

(b) the quantum of foodgrains actually allotted to the State togetherwith the increase, if any made therein; and

(c) the prices at which the foodgrains were released during these years for the persons under BPL and the actual retail prices thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN): (a) Under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) introduced from June, 1997, foodgrains (Rice & Wheat) are allotted to States/UTs including Bihar for families below poverty line (BPL) & families above poverty line (APL) as per TPDS guidelines. The allocation of foodgrains for BPL families was fixed at 10 kg. per family per month which was increased to 20 kg. from April, 2000 and has again been increased to 25 kg. per family per month from July, 2001. The APL allocation of foodgrains was fixed equal to the past 10 years' annual average lifting of foodgrains under PDS minus BPL allocation for a State/UT.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

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(b) The quantum of foodgrains allotted to Bihar during the last three years i.e. 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 and the quantities lifted by the State Government are as under:—

(in '000' tonnes)

Rice

Year	Allotment		Offtake	
	BPL	APL	BPL	APL
1998-99	412320	95.040	231.718	4.053
1999-2000	412320	95.040	234350	2220
2000-2001	750.840	86.604	131.445	1.032

Wheat

Year	Allotment		Offtake	
	BPL	APL	BPL	APL
1998-99	618.480	212.560	576.558	137.742
1999-2000	618.480	242.560	641.930	17.080
2000-2001	1126.260	129.908	428.651	1.081

(c) Central Issue Prices (CIP) of foodgrains (Rice and Wheat) for BPL category (ex-FCI godowns) and actual retail prices in Bihar thereof during the last three years i.e. 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 are as under:—

(Rupees per quintal)

Rice	Year	CIP	Retail Prices
	1998-99	350	400
	1999-2000	350	400
	2000-2001	590(upto 25.7.2000)	622
		565 (from 25.7.2000)	Not available

(Rs. per quintal)

	Year	CIP	Retail Prices
Wheat	1998-99	250	300
	1999-2000	250	300
	2000-2001	450 (upto 25.7.2000) 415 (from 25.7.2000)	473 Not available

Deteriorated foodgrains stored in FCI

479. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of CONSUMERAFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to poor and costly storage facilities, a considerable quantity of foodgrains stored in the Food Corporation of India's godowns has been deteriorated and rendered unfit for human consumption during the last two years;

(b) if so, the quantity of foodgrains falling in spoiled category; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure that foodgrains stored in FCI godowns do not become unfit for human consumption?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Food Corporation of India (FCI) undertakes storage of foodgrains in scientifically built godowns and in a scientific manner. The quality and condition of stocks is monitored by undertaking periodic inspections at regular interval. Necessary, prophylactic and curative disinfestation treatments are undertaken,] However, inspite of various steps taken, some damage to the foodgrain stock takes place due to long storage as well as natural calamities such as flood, cyclone, etc. Such damaged stocks retrieved after segregation/salvaging, which are unfit for human consumption, are disposed off as fit for feed, industrial use, manure and dumping etc.

The foodgrains which got damaged during the last two years are given below:

Year	Quantity in M.T. (Prov.)
1999-2000	2,13,
2000-2001	537